# Saipan Tribune CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIII, Issue No. 352 THURSDAY DECEMBER 18, 2003 www.saipantribune.com 50¢

INSIDE

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# Around the CNMI

URBAN OUTLET +RED



	cars
mcdo	

# **WEATHER FORECAST**

### PICTURE TIME: 2:25 A.M., DECEMBER 17, 2003

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends from 6N130E through a tropical disturbance near 8N145E and finally to near 5N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the disturbance are found in the Mariana islands as well as between Yap and Chuuk or between 4N and 16N from 139E to 153E. Just east of the monsoon trough, a surface trough of low pressure continues to near the equator at 168E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are developing north and east of the trough or within 100 miles either side of a line from 9N160E to the equator at 173E, including Kosrae. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across portions of the Marshall islands, between 4N and 16N from 170E to 180.



### SAIPAN AND TINIAN

Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers. **Temperature:** Lows near 78. Highs near 86.



### GUAM AND ROTA

Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some Cloudy and Dieczy with seattles and locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers. **Temperature:** Lows near 78. Highs near 86.



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.



### **POHNPEI**

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Winds: East at 10 kt.



### YAP AND ULITHI Partly cloudy with

isolated showers. Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.



### **KOSRAE**

Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Winds: Southeast at 10 kt.



CHUUK

Mostly cloudy with scattered showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms. Winds: Northeast at 10-15 kt.



### **MAJURO**

MAJUNG
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Winds: East at 10-15 kt.

	CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
2	Auckland	Cloudy	61F (16C)	49F (9C)
樂	Beijing	Sunny	44F (7C)	26F (-3C)
4	Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	74F (23C)	61F (16C)
4	Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86F (30C)	72F (22C)
2	London, England	Cloudy	56F (13C)	45F (7C)
	Los Angeles	Cloudy	69F (21C)	51F (11C)
2	Manila	Cloudy	88F (31C)	71F (22C)
*	Melbourne	Sunny	73F (23C)	54F (12C)
4	Miami	Partly Cloudy	84F (29C)	75F (24C)
	New York, NY	Cloudy	52F (11C)	48F (9C)
11	Osaka	Rain	54F (12C)	46F (8C)
2	Paris	Cloudy	53F (12C)	41F (5C)
1	Pusan	Rain	58F (14C)	43F (6C)
4	Rome	Partly Cloudy	55F (13C)	39F (4C)
	Salem, Oregon	Rain	54F (12C)	38F (3C)
*	San Francisco	Sunny	64F (18C)	47F (5C)
il.	Seoul	Rain	52F (11C)	45F (7C)
il.	Tokyo	Rain	55F (13C)	49F (9C)
2	Washington, DC	Cloudy	60F (16C)	48F (9C)



tribune

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# Opinion



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John Pangelinan PUBLISHER Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR

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Ap The Associated Press	Pacific Islands News Association
<b>EDITORIAL</b>	
EDITORIAL	

Los Angeles Times



### Letters to the Editor

Saipan Tribune welcomes contributions. All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name, address and, if possible, fax or telephone number. Letters are edited for space, clarity and fairness.



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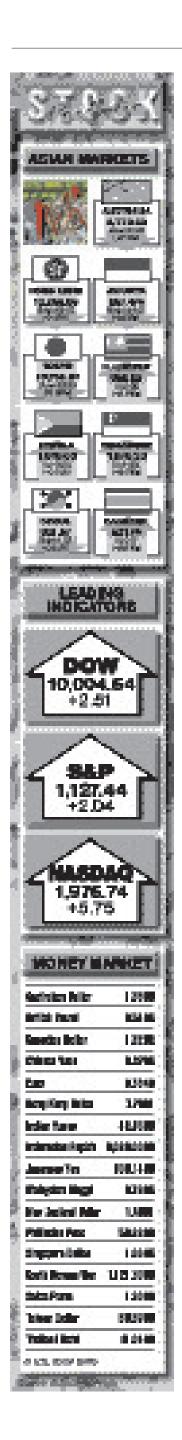
# Our World At War

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# **Business**



native hawaiian

verizon 60th ww2 cmyk	triple j

AGROSS THE NATION

**14** SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2004 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Asia

# Afghan hostage crisis intensifies

By STEPHEN GRAHAM

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)— Militants claiming to hold three U.N. hostages said Thursday that talks on their demands, including the release of Taliban prisoners, had broken down, and they would decide Friday whether to kill the trio.

The Jaish-al Muslimeen, a shadowy Taliban splinter group, told The Associated Press that Irish-British hostage Annetta Flanigan was "seriously ill" because of the strain of her captivity, and all three were sickened by a diet of little more than cookies.

A purported commander for the group said U.N. and Afghan officials contacted them by telephone Thursday but were "not ready for negotiations."

"We have decided that we won't negotiate any more, either, because they are not making a serious effort to get the hostages released," a man identifying himself as Sadir Momin said in a satellite telephone call.

"Tomorrow we will hold another shura (council) ... Then we will decide whether to kill them or allow more time."

AP reporters in Afghanistan and Pakistan spoke with three purported representatives of the militant group Thursday. Their claims could not be verified independently.

Afghan and U.N. officials were either unavailable or declined to comment. None have confirmed any contact with the kidnappers.

Armed men abducted Flanigan, Filipino Angelito Nayan and Shqipe Hebibi of Kosovo a week ago in the Afghan capital.

The group's leader, Akbar Agha, said in a separate phone call that Flanigan was ailing.

"My friends have told me she is very frightened. She can't speak smoothly," he said. "The Afghan government will be responsible if anything happens to her."



# Manila asked not to grant concessions

Tarongoy

**Philippines** (AP)—U.S. officials have asked the Philippine government not to give any concessions to Iraqi insurgents holding a Filipino, an American and two other hostages, a Philippine official said Thursday.

The Americans also wanted an "open-ended authority" to deal with the hostage crisis as they see fit, but did not say what steps they planned to take, said the official, who is among those involved in efforts to secure the freedom of accountant Robert Tarongoy.

The abductions were the first kidnappings of foreigners in Kabul since the Taliban was ousted in 2001 and sparked concern militants were copying the tactics of their Iraqi counterparts.

Tarongoy, 31, was working for a Saudi Arabian company catering food to American

troops when gunmen stormed the company's compound on Monday, seizing him, an American and a Nepalese.

"They don't want concession whatsoever to be given to the kidnappers," the official said on condition of anonymity.

U.S. officials made the request on Wednesday, and there was no

The group released a videotape of the hostages Sunday to back its claim of responsibility and has demanded the withdrawals of British troops and the United Nations from immediate response from the Manila radio station DZEC that Philippine government, he said. The U.S. Embassy in Manila

had no immediate comment.

The United States criticized the Philippines when it withdrew its small troop contingent from Iraq in July to save the life of a kidnapped Filipino truck driver,

saying Manila was setting a bad precedent.

Eric Endaya, a top Philippine diplomat in Baghdad, told

Afghanistan in return for the hostages' lives.

the little-known group could have pulled off the kidnappings without the help of a

local militia or criminal gang, and authorities have conducted Still, Afghan officials doubt a number of searches in and around the city.

On Thursday, the group claimed it gave authorities a list

the U.S. policy of not negotiat-

ing with terrorists was one

factor "that will make it quite

difficult" to win Tarongoy's

release. At the same time, any

U.S. involvement could prove

useful in securing his freedom,

On Wednesday, Foreign Sec-

retary Alberto Romulo refused to

categorically say whether the Phil-

ippines would adhere to Wash-

ington's policy of not negotiating

with terrorists, leaving open the

possibility it would take its own

steps to try to save the hostage.

he said, without elaborating.

of 25 Taliban prisoners, some held at a U.S. military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and others in Afghan jails.

"The government said they would think about releasing those Taliban held in Afghan prisons and discuss the prisoners held by the Americans," spokesman Syed Khaled said.

U.N. spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva thanked the Afghan government Thursday for its efforts to free the hostages. He said the world body was "doing all it can" in support, but he gave no details.

He also said U.N. staff had received messages of support, including a statement by the Council of Ulema, or religious scholars, which said the kidnappings "defame Islam."

"However, we are increasingly worried about Shqipe, Lito and Annetta," Almeida e Silva said. "The psychological pressure must be tremendous, not knowing what will happen from one day to the next ... We ask those holding them to release them immediately and unharmed."

The militants have backed off a series of deadlines to kill the three hostages, claiming negotiations are under way. They also have suggested that Nayan, a Philippine diplomat, might be spared because his country has no troops in Afghanistan.

All three hostages were helping manage Afghanistan's Oct. 9 presidential election.

The hostage-taking cast a shadow over the official announcement on Wednesday that U.S.-backed Hamid Karzai was Afghanistan's first-ever popularly elected president.

"It has saddened all the electoral staff and the nation of Afghanistan," electoral board chairman Zakim Shah said, appealing for the swift release of the victims "to put an end to this suffering during what should be a time of national celebration."

### Arroyo: Bush to unite America behind freedom and rule of law

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

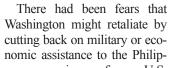
MANILA, Philippines (AP)— The Philippine president, who embraced the U.S.-led war on terror, said Thursday she was confident the re-election of George W. Bush will unite America behind the ideals of freedom and the rule of law.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo also praised John Kerry "for a fight well fought" and called the closely contested U.S. election "the apex of democracy."

"We stand foursquare behind America in defending the ramparts of freedom, colleclaw everywhere," Arroyo said in a statement. "I am confident President Bush will unite America behind these

principles." Arroyo was among Bush's closest Asian allies until July, when she decided to withdraw a small Philippine contingent from Iraq early to save the life of a kidnapped

Filipino truck driver. The pullout was strongly criticized by Washington and other allies, but won praise back home. About 8 million Filipinos work abroad.



pines, a former U.S. colony, but the two pledged to continue warm ties.

The Department of Foreign Affairs announced a new round of Philippine-U.S. military drills from Nov. 14-20 at

the former U.S.-run Clark air base north of Manila.

Some 60 to 70 U.S. soldiers and about 170 Philippine air force members will take part in

tive security and the rule of There had been fears that that aims to boost the air force's external defense, surface attack and airlift capability through combined air and ground operations exercises, Undersecretary Zosimo Jesus Paredes II said.

"With the re-election of U.S. President Bush, we can expect a strong resolve by the U.S. and the Philippines in combating terrorism," Paredes said. "This may result in an increased number of exercises in the following years and a more solid relations between our two countries."

Arroyo relayed her congratulations to Bush through U.S. Ambassador Francis Ricciardone, who met her at the presidential palace.

Two Manila oil firm attacked, no casualties

MANILA, Philippines tron spokeswoman Virginia (AP)—Attackers fired grenades at the Manila offices of two Philippine oil companies early Friday, but they failed to explode and there were no casualties, the companies said.

The grenades shattered glass at the high-rise offices of Caltex Philippines Inc. and Petron Corp., but the earlymorning attacks caused no injuries, the companies said.

"I suppose this is a form of protest over the price increases, which we really cannot control, because it is the world market that is determining the price," PeRuivivar told ABS-CBN TV. Oil prices have been steadi-

prompting street protests. Jejomar Binay, the mayor of Manila's financial district, said police officers didn't no-

ly rising in the past weeks,

tice the attacks because there was no explosion. Security guards said they saw a white vehicle speed away

after the attack on the Caltex office, radio reports said. Similar attacks in the

past have been claimed by a breakaway faction of the country's mainstream communist rebels.



the annual Talon Vision exercise

# Thailand shootings kill nine Buddhists

By SUTIN WANNABOVORN

AP WRITER

# **BANGKOK, Thailand** (AP)—Nine Buddhists, including two policemen, were

killed in a series of shootings in southern Thailand's bloodiest 24 hours since a government crackdown on a riot last week left 85 Muslims dead.

The slayings heightened anxiety Thursday among Buddhists over apparent revenge attacks in the mainly Islamic region, including the beheading this week of a local official.

"Buddhists are living in a state of fear because we find that the insurgents are now targeting us. They are exacting revenge on innocent Buddhists who have nothing to do with the ongoing violence," said Pairat Wihakarat, a teachers' association president.

The latest violence started Wednesday night with the shooting deaths of a police sergeant in the southern province of Songkhla and two civilians in nearby Narathiwat.

On Thursday, police Maj. Kaow Kosaiyakanon was killed when a man posing as a customer entered his grocery store, shot him and fled. Kaow, 53, of Yala, was the most senior police officer to be killed recently.

A gunman also shot to death a motorcycle salesman, 42year-old Taweesak Monthong, and seriously wounded one of his co-workers elsewhere in Yala, police said.

Also Thursday, two railway employees were fatally shot while inspecting tracks in Narathiwat.

In Pattani province, a district official was shot to death while

North Korea is likely to return

to six-nation talks on its nuclear

weapons development now that

the U.S. election is over, South

Korea's foreign minister said

In a report to the National As-

sembly's unification and foreign

affairs committee, Foreign Min-

ister Ban Ki-moon also said

South Korea plans to persuade

North Korea to make a "stra-

tegic decision" that will set

the stage for a breakthrough

Thursday.

driving to his fruit plantation, and in nearby Songkhla, a Buddhist monk on his way to a religious ceremony was fatally wounded by a motorcycle gunman.

Police said they suspected Islamic insurgents were behind the attacks, but no arrests were made and nobody claimed responsibility.

Foreign Minister Surakiart Sathirathai, meanwhile, sought to play down a U.N. e-mail warning to its local employees of a possible attack in the capital of Bangkok, saying it was merely a precaution.

Noting that the world body was on edge because of fatal attacks on its personnel elsewhere, Surakiart said, "It is not a declaration that Thailand is not safe," according to the state Thai News Agency.

Since January, more than 400 people have died in the south, many in drive-by shootings by motorcyclists. But the violence has escalated since Oct. 25, when seven people were killed when police opened fire on rioters outside a police station and another 78 died later in military custody after being stacked on

top of each other in trucks.

The government blames Islamic separatists for the violence while Muslim leaders cite discrimination and heavy-handed tactics by officials against the religious minority. Outside the south, most Thais are Buddhists.

On its Web site last week, the Pattani United Liberation Organization urged Buddhists to leave the south and threatened terrorist attacks in Bangkok. The separatist group, however, is not thought to be directly involved in the recent violence.

# ASIANBrief

### Bashir appeals for Muslim support

JAKARTA, Indonesia
(AP)—Alleged Southeast
Asian extremist chief Abu
Bakar Bashir on Thursday accused police of arresting him
on orders of President Bush,
and dismissed terror charges
against him as "laughable."

In a rambling defense plea read to court, the 66-year-old cleric also attacked the secular government in the world's most populous Muslim nation, accusing Indonesia of ignoring the plight of Muslims killed by U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Bashir is accused of heading the al-Qaida-linked terror group Jemaah Islamiyah, and of inciting his followers to take part in the 2002 Bali bombings and the J.W. Marriott Hotel attack last year in Jakarta. He faces the death penalty if convicted.

The United States and Australia have publicly accused Bashir of being a key Southeast Asian terrorist, and have long called on Jakarta to arrest him. He has been in prison since shortly after the Bali bombings.

# Vietnam may reduce number of capital offenses

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)— Vietnam will consider reducing the number of offenses punishable by death due to an international "trend of humanization and democracy," state-controlled media reported Friday.

Vietnam should consider dropping capital punishment for economic crimes and others that are not capital offenses in other countries, the Tuoi Tre (Youth) newspaper quoted Justice Minister Uong Chu Luu as saying.

"With the trend of humanization and democracy, I think it's time to review the articles to see whether (we) can still ensure the fight against crimes without terminating the lives of those who committed economic crimes and some other crimes," Luu said in the article.

The communist country carried out the death penalty by firing squad.

### Thai TV program set to show man eating centipedes draws criticism

BANGKOK, Thailand

(AP)—Doctors on Friday urged that a TV program set to show a man eating live centipedes and cockroaches be canceled, saying it might endanger the lives of copycat youngsters.

Local newspapers published front-page photographs of Wek Srikhaimook—nicknamed "Wek Cockroach"—eating the insects during a taping of the show, which is to be aired Monday.

Wek says he's been eating the creatures for more than 10 years and appeared on one television show three years ago munching on cockroaches.

He claims that he's experienced no ill effects, but several experts disagree.

### Convicted American sex offender jailed for lying to get job

SINGAPORE (AP)—A Singapore court ordered a convicted American sex offender to spend seven months in jail for lying about his past to get a teaching job here, a newspaper reported Friday.

Jack West, 58, told Singapore's Manpower Ministry he had no previous criminal history but actually had a record going back 30 years, the Straits Times newspaper said.

He had applied for work here in 1999 and was granted approval to teach, the paper said. He also was fined 8,000 Singapore dollars (US\$4,820; euro 3,900) when he was sentenced Wednesday, the paper added.

Court documents showed West was charged with eight counts of lying to government officials in order to stay in the country. S. Korea: N. Korea likely to rejoin talks

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— at the next round of talks.

Ban didn't rule out the possitalks have taken place in Bei-

"The U.S. presidential election has ended, and if the U.S. side pushes for an early resumption of the six-party talks, North Korea will consider it has to continue to deal with the Bush administration, and there is a possibility that it will respond to the talks," Ban said, according to South Korea's Yonhap news agency.

North Korea has yet to comment on the re-election of President Bush.

Ban didn't rule out the possibility of North Korea remaining reluctant to come to the negotiating table since the North has repeatedly demanded that there must be a change in what it calls a "hostile" U.S. policy.

The report on Thursday focused on the implications of the re-election of Bush. Analysts have said North Korea wanted to wait for the outcome so that it could deal with a new administration without political uncertainty.

Three rounds of six-nation

talks have taken place in Beijing on curbing North Korea's nuclear ambitions, but with little progress. The United States, Russia, China, Japan and the two Koreas are participants.

A fourth round of nuclear negotiations scheduled for September failed to take place because Pyongyang refused to attend.

The nuclear dispute flared in 2002 when U.S. officials said North Korea admitted running a secret nuclear program in violation of international agreements.

# Mig-29 fighter planes of the "Swifts" aerobatics team of the Russian Air Force perform during the Fifth Chinese International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition (CIAAE) in Zhuhai, a city in south China's Guangdong Province, Thursday, Nov. 4, 2004.

### Strong aftershocks rattle northern Japan

TOKYO (AP)—Two strong aftershocks rattled northern Japan Thursday, weeks after a powerful earthquake killed 39 people and injured thousands. The tremors sent residents dashing under tables and caused at least one injury.

Late Thursday, a magnitude 5.7 earthquake jolted the country's northernmost main island

of Hokkaido, but there were no immediate reports of injuries. The quake, which struck at 11:03 p.m. (9:03 a.m. EST), was centered 37 miles underground, near the island of Kunashiri, about 590 miles north of Tokyo, the Meteorological Agency said.

The aftershock, about 500 miles north of the magnitude 6.8

tremor that struck rural Niigata prefecture on Oct. 23, was in an area not affected by the initial tremor. Kunashiri is one of four islands north of Hokkaido controlled by Russia but claimed by Japan. The main impact was felt in the village of Betsukai but local official Kiyomi Sato said there was no damage there.

# Taiwan court won't nullify March election

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan's High Court ruled against nullifying the March 20 presidential election on Thursday, rejecting opposition claims that the vote was marred by fraud and a shooting that injured President Chen Shui-bian one day before his victory by a razor-thin margin.

The ruling followed seven months of hearings, ballot recounting and investigations that posed a serious challenge to one of Asia's youngest democracies. The disputed vote was only Taiwan's third direct presidential election.

Wu Ching-yuan, the High Court's presiding judge, said, "We announce hereby that the petition to nullify the election result is rejected."

Hundreds of protesters rallied outside the court, honking horns and climbing on barriers wrapped in barbed wire. A long line of police with riot shields tried to prevent a repeat of the violent street protests that lasted for days after the election.

The losing candidate, Lien Chan of the Nationalist Party, will appeal to the Supreme Court, the island's higest judicial body, said his lawyer, Jaclyn Tsai, who alleged the court was biased toward the president.

But the president's attorney, Wellington Koo, urged the opposition to accept the decision, saying the judiciary is independent.

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# World



CRM

# Kids talk with children's author Patricia Reilly Giff

By MATTHEW HENRY, HANNAH KENAGY and SAMAH MOHAMED

We spoke with Patricia Reilly Giff, author of more than 60 children's books, at Random House Publishers in Manhattan recently. She taught reading for 20 years before becoming a successful author. She won the Newbery Honor awards for "Pictures of Hollis Woods" and "Lily's Crossing."



### O: What do you think is your best book and why?

A: "Pictures of Hollis Woods"; it has what is called a "back story." The main character, a 12-year-old girl, is living now and remembering what happened in the past. I decided to write it as a chapter of past and a chapter of present. That book was hard to write.

### Q: Which of your characters is most like you?

A: I am like Lily (a young girl who meets a Hungarian refugee in America during World War II) in "Lily's Crossing" in many ways, except I didn't lie like she did.

Q: Would you like any of your books made into a movie?

A: Sure! "Lily's Crossing" has been made into a play. It's wonderful. I cry every time I see it. I would love to see it and "Pictures of Hollis Woods" made into movies.

Q: What five books do you think every kid our age (10) should read?

A: When I was a little girl, I loved "Little Women"

(by Louisa May Alcott), "The Secret Garden" (by Frances H. Burnett) and "Bambi" (by Felix Salten), but if I had to pick books you should read, they wouldn't be them. I recommend "Charlotte's Web" (by E.B. White), "Bridge to Terabithia" by Katherine Paterson, "The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle" by Avi, "Autumn Street" by Lois Lowry and Jerry Spinelli's "Loser."

e's Grossing

### Q: Have you ever stopped writing for even a day?

A: It's very unusual for me not to write every day. If you're going to be a writer, you have to write every day, even if only for 15 minutes.

### Q: Is it true that you like to read in the bathtub?

A: I love reading in the bathtub! I read there without being disturbed. Although my cat walks around the rim of my bathtub, and the whole time I'm reading, I'm wondering if he's going to fall in. But he never does.

"A Woman for President: The Story of Victoria Woodhull"

By Kathleen Krull; illustrations by Jane Dyer Ages 7-12

Victoria Woodhull was a wom-

**Professor Snape** 21.3 percent

27.2 percent

Ron Weasley

Survey: Doomed

in 'Harry Potter'

Last week, we asked readers

who J.K. Rowling would kill

off in "Harry Potter and the

Half-Blood Prince." More

than 450 readers voted. Here

Professor Dumbledore

are the results:

5.4 percent

Hermione Granger

Somebody else

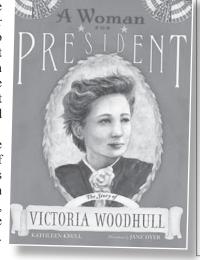
41.7 percent (c) 2004, The Washington Post

an who didn't take no for an answer. In 1872, at a time when women weren't even allowed to vote, she ran for president. She didn't win, obviously, but by speaking out for the rights of women she helped change the course of history.

This picture book, with captivating watercolor illustrations, outlines Woodhull's colorful, controversial life. She was a child preacher, a fortune-teller and someone who talked to spirits. She also was the first woman to own a stock-trad-

ing company and one of the nation's first female newspaper owners. And she managed to accomplish these things not only during an era when women had few rights, but also despite being born into a family without the advantages of money and education.

Woodhull once said that she was "many years ahead" of the times she lived in. Perhaps that's why so little has been written about her until now, when kids can really appreciate her determination and vision. (The Washington Post)



# Kids answer kids' problems

By KIDSDAY STAFF REPORTERS

Dear Kidsday: My friend has an annoying habit. When I talk to her, she cracks her gum or blows bubbles. What can I do to stop her?—Chewed Out

Dear Chewed Out: If this girl is really a friend, she should not be offended if you tell her nicely to please control her gum-chewing habits. We think you'd be doing her a favor by making her aware that this habit is annoying to others.

Dear Kidsday: I'm a 12-year-old girl. I'm not allowed to go anywhere by myself. Sometimes I'd like to ride my bike to 7-Eleven or to the library, but my mom won't let me. Do you think that's fair?—Not a Baby Anymore

Dear Not a Baby: Don't be upset; all the kids on this panel are either age 11 or 12, and none of us are allowed to go places alone. We must always have an adult escort or at least one friend with us wherever we go. Also, if we live near a busy street, we aren't allowed to ride bikes there. We realize our parents make these rules for our safety, and in a few years we'll be able to be more independent.

Dear Kidsday: I'm an 11-year-old boy. My mom buys all my clothes. There are some things she buys that I like, and some I don't. Should I be able to choose my own clothes?—Needs

Dear Needs New Clothes: We think you should go shopping with your mom, but be prepared to compromise. There's a good chance your mom won't like everything you pick and you won't like all her choices. Beforehand, decide on a budget. For example, ask how much she is willing to spend on a pair of jeans. Bring allowance money if you have it to contribute to the cost. Whatever you do, don't start an argument in the store. Try to make it as pleasant an experience as possible, or she won't want to take you shopping again.

Dear Kidsday: I'm a 5-year-old girl in kindergarten (my mom is writing this for me), and I still sit in a car seat when we use our car. I told my parents that I don't need it and I'm not a baby, but they still make me sit in it. What can I do? Do I keep arguing with my parents?—Not a Baby

Dear Not: This might not be your fight, it's the law. There are height and weight reasons why you must sit in a car seat.

Dear Kidsday: My parents never buy me Britney Spears CDs. They don't cost much, but I never get any. They think everything is too expensive.—Bored Kid

Dear Bored Kid: As long as they don't think her music is inappropriate, we think you should spend your own money. You also can download some songs. Ask for an allowance or get a job around the house or neighborhood.

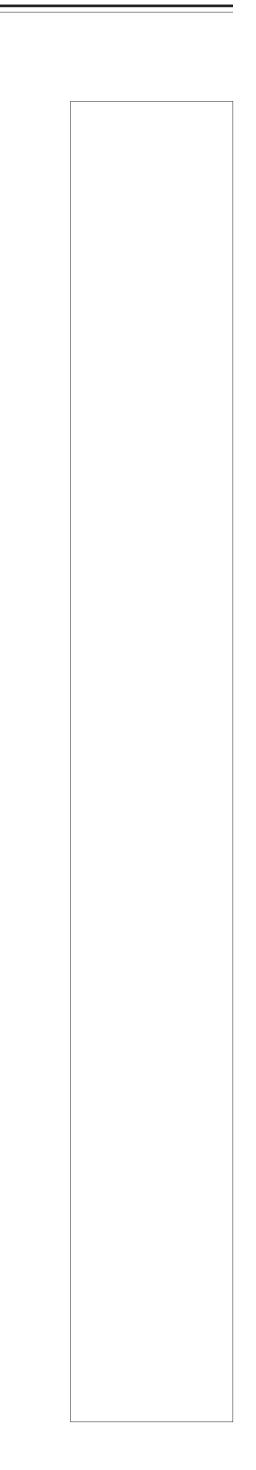
Dear Kidsday: I'm 10 years old. I'd like to start a collection. Any ideas?—Wannabe collector

Dear Wannabe collector: Collecting can be a fun hobby. We suggest you collect something you like, such as things you can play with or things you find attractive. Kids on this panel collect bottle caps, seashells, trading cards, crystals, stickers and thimbles. Another idea is to collect items available at tourist spots, such as keychains or postcards, so you can remember where you have traveled. Make your collection special by keeping it in a decorative box or tin, or displaying it in your room.

Dear Kidsday: I'm allergic to peanuts. When I go out to eat, my mom always makes a big deal about asking the waiter/ waitress what's in the food. I get embarrassed. What can I do?—I'm a Big Boy Now

Dear Big Boy: You sound mature and capable enough to speak for yourself when at a restaurant. We don't know how severe your condition is, but be aware that for many people who are allergic to peanuts, even the slightest trace can be a matter of life and death. Before you go out to eat again, have a chat with your mom. Tell her that you want to ask what ingredients are in the dish you want to order. Another suggestion is go to the same restaurants more often so the waiters are familiar with your diet.

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# Life & Style

### Mother's in family doghouse for putting poodle on throne

By AVIGAIL VAN BUREN

**DEAR ABBY**: My mother, who is in her late 70s, lives alone with her standard poodle, "Bonaparte." She refuses to go anywhere unless we agree that Bonaparte can go, too. When one of us offers to take her to dinner, the poodle waits in the car. She won't visit family members either, unless Bonaparte is welcome.



For Mother's birthday, I planned a special outing at a lovely restaurant and a matinee performance of a show

that was in town. Mamma refused to go unless we took the dog. It wasn't appropriate, so I told her no. She refused to go and is still mad at me. She continually tries to make me feel guilty for "spoiling" her birthday.

How can I make my mother realize that the dog is an animal companion, and there are times when she needs to enjoy the company of people sans her dog?

HAD IT UP TO HERE IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR HAD IT: Some people are so fond of their pets they are reluctant to part with them, even temporarily. Your mother appears to be one of them. She has made her feelings clear, and I doubt anyone—myself included—could convince her to socialize without him. (Feelings are not always rational.) Since you can't teach an old dog new tricks, when you invite your mother and the dog out, make sure there is plenty of air circulating in the car and a water bowl so Bonaparte will be safe and comfortable.

**DEAR ABBY**: My beloved 8-year-old niece, "Emily," has expressed that she's embarrassed to be seen with me because I am "so big." I'm aware that children are easily embarrassed by differences, be it someone using a cane, someone with a foreign accent, or someone who is fat like me.

I don't want to embarrass Emily on the days that I pick her up from school, but I also don't want to condone her attitude about "fat people" by hiding in the car.

How can I expect an 8-year-old to be free of prejudice when even supposedly mature adults expect all women to be slim-slender-thin-petite? I know Emily loves me; she just doesn't want people to see us together in public. What advice have you for us?

CONCERNED IN NEW MEXICO

**DEAR CONCERNED: Under no circumstances should** you hide. Remind your niece that there is more to a person than just the package—that when you love someone, you accept that person for who he or she is, not how he or she looks. Emily may be only 8, but she's old enough to learn

**DEAR ABBY**: I have been dating my boyfriend, "Brad," for about six months. It's a long-distance relationship because he went off to college.

My problem is, recently Brad has stopped contacting me. He says he'll call, but he never does. He moved out of the dorm at school, so I don't know how to contact him other than e-mail. I have e-mailed him a couple of letters, but I haven't heard back from him. I don't know what to do. Should I give up on him?

LONGING IN IDAHO

DEAR LONGING: By not contacting you, Brad is sending you a strong message. He knows how to reach you. Since he has moved and left you no contact information, it's safe to assume that the romance is over—at least for now.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$10 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby-Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

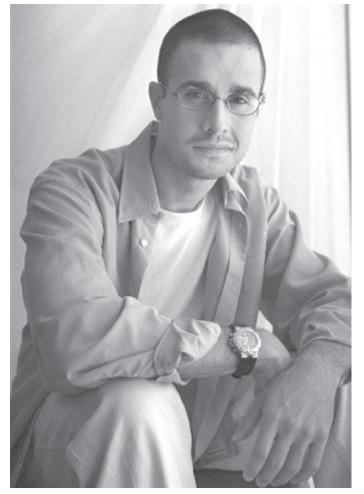
# Freddie Prinze Jr. plans to star in sitcom

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Freddie Prinze Jr. has signed a deal with Warner Bros. and ABC to create and star in his own sitcom. Although the 28-yearold "Scooby-Doo" actor has popped up for guest spots on "Boston Legal" and "Friends," he's most noted for his turns in both "Scooby-Doo" movies and the slasher film "I Know What You Did Last Summer.'

"This was something I wanted to do for a long time," Prinze told The Associated Press while on the set of his latest movie.

"It's tough working on the road all the time. I love my family. I love my wife. I miss them. I want to be in Los Angeles. A TV schedule, especially half-hour, allows you the opportunity to go and make movies when you want to make movies and then still be able to satisfy yourself creatively from home.'

In the sitcom, Prinze will portray a Puerto Rican raised in a household of women, an experience he said is based on his own life. Prinze was raised by his mother in New Mexico



after his father, "Chico and the Man" star Freddie Prinze, committed suicide in 1977.

"I told them I won't do TV unless I'm the executive producer, unless I'm the creator, unless I'm a writer on the show," Prinze said. "If that's a problem, I understand that and respect that. I have to make sure it's represented the way it is. The only way to do that is if I have one boss and not seven."

Prinze, who's married to "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" star Sarah Michelle Gellar, is filming the coming-of-age drama "Nailed Right In" with Alec Baldwin and Mena Suvari in New York. He said he has no fears about the wishy-washy world of TV sitcoms.

"When I focus on something, I usually succeed in this business," Prinze told the AP. "I'm more scared about flying."

Actor Freddie Prinze Jr. pauses to have his photo taken during an innterview with the Associated Press Sunday, in this Aug. 12, 2001 file photo in Los Angeles.

# Judge won't remove DA from Jackson case

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP)— A judge on Thursday rejected a defense effort to remove the district attorney in the Michael Jackson child molestation case on the grounds that the pop star had been the victim of an overzealous prosecution.

Judge Rodney Melville said the law is clear that the only way he could remove District Attorney Tom Sneddon and his office is "if a conflict existed where the defendant could not receive a fair trial." He said no such conflict existed.

"I believe he has not been excessively zealous and has not threatened the integrity of the case to this point," the judge said of the prosecutor.

Jackson's lawyer, Thomas Mesereau Jr., said Sneddon and his office had spent more money pursuing Jackson than they had on the cases of serial killers, showing that they had lost perspective. He said the prosecutors are so caught up in the case that Sneddon misrepresented to grand jurors the potential motivation of the boy's family in accusing Jackson.

"They are too emotionally invested in getting a case against the celebrity," Mesereau said. "They are blinded by zeal, blinded by emotion."

He also cited Sneddon's personal role in investigating the Jackson case as well as his performance at a news conference announcing the singer's arrest in which he cracked jokes with the media.

Prosecutors said they had no personal agenda in pursuing the case.

The defense had wanted Sneddon's office removed and the state attorney general's office to take over.

Jackson has pleaded not guilty to child molestation, conspiracy and administering an intoxicating agent, alcohol, to a boy. He is set to stand trial Jan. 31.

### **Marc Almond** hopes to recover from crash

LONDON (AP)—Singer Marc Almond says he hopes to make a full recovery from injuries sustained in a motorcycle crash last month.

A message posted on Almond's Web site says he's recovering in the hospital and "is confident he will get back to full health eventually, though he realizes it is going to take time."

"He is overwhelmed by the amount of support shown and says it has been a big help," said the message, posted Wednesday.

Almond, 48, of 1980s duo Soft Cell, was a passenger on a motorcycle that collided with a car in London's financial district on Oct 17. Police said the singer suffered severe head injuries when he was thrown from the bike.

Soft Cell earned a No. 1 hit in Britain and major U.S. airplay in 1981 with "Tainted Love," their synthesizer-laden cover of a classic Gloria Jones soul song.

Almond and fellow band member David Ball broke up in 1984, and Almond began a successful solo career. He scored a major hit with a 1989 duet with Gene Pitney on Pitney's "Something's Gotten Hold of My Heart."

# Al Roker to report on gastric bypass

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC's Al Roker reports on his health since his gastric bypass surgery, and the potential dangers and benefits involved in the procedure, in an hour-long special to air Friday night on "Dateline NBC."

network's "Today" Show, underwent gastric bypass surgery two and onehalf years ago.

"For anybody who thinks that this is a magic bullet - you do this and it's done. You're making a mistake. It's not," he says.

In the four-part report, "Weighing the Risks," Roker talks to teens, parents and Roker, the weatherman on the a physician about some possible dangers, and whether teens have a tougher time dealing with emotional and physical changes that come with the surgery.



### Update on Jennings "Jeopardy!" streak

Ken Jennings, a software engineer from Salt Lake City, has shattered records on the TV game show "Jeopardy!" His run began June 2 (interrupted by several special theme weeks). A look at Jennings' streak:

Consecutive shows as winner: 67.

Money won on show aired Thursday: \$50,000.

Money won so far: \$2,247,000.

Perspective: At the start of ous record of \$2,180,000 won its 20th season last fall, "Jeopardy!" changed its longtime rule that said a champion must leave after five straight wins. Now a player stays until losing. Jennings now has the longest winning streak in game show history.

Top winner: Jennings is already the biggest game-show winner ever, topping the previ-

by Kevin Olmstead on ABC's "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" in 2001. Final Jeopardy: The category

was "U.S. Travel and Tourism." The clue: "Souvenirs sold at this attraction include the 1962 World's Fair glassware and mugs boasting 'I made it to the top.' Jennings correctly identified Seattle's space needle. (AP)

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# manage Mets

By RONALD BLUM

AP SPORTS WRITER



He called his parents in South Carolina after new Mets general manager Omar Minaya hired him Wednesday night and took congratulatory calls from Frank Robinson and Reggie Jackson. Paul O'Neill and Don Mattingly telephoned, too.

"They all love me—now," Randolph said softly as he looked out at all the cameras and reporters.

Taking over a team coming off its third straight losing season, Randolph was given a three-year contract worth about \$1.8 million and the chance to earn additional annual bonuses depending on how the Mets finish. After 11 seasons as a coach with the New York Yankees, he has an idea about the importance of success and the intolerance of failure.

Art Howe, fired midway through a four-year contract, not only failed to win, he was boring. Randolph, chosen over Texas hitting coach Rudy Jaramillo and former Houston and Anaheim manager Terry Collins, gives the Mets some pizzaz.

A six-time All-Star second baseman. he becomes the first black major league manager in New York. He cited Jackie Robinson, Josh Gibson and Cool Papa Bell as inspirations.

Minaya hadn't talked with Randolph much until interviewing him last month. He was impressed by Randolph's passion and consistency.

Minaya, a Dominican who grew up near Shea Stadium in Queens, felt a kinship. He had been turned down for many GM jobs before commissioner Bud Selig hired him as general manager of the Montreal Expos in 2002.

The 50-year-old Randolph becomes the third Brooklyn native to manage a major league team, joining his former Yankees boss, Joe Torre, and colleague, Lee Mazzilli. Randolph was a Mets fan growing up, went to Shea Stadium as a kid and said he "danced in the streets" when the Miracle Mets won the 1969 World Series.

Randolph thought back to May 23. 1970, when he was 15 and took his future wife, Gretchen, to Shea, a time when box seats cost \$4

He won two World Series rings as a player with the Yankees and four more as a coach. On Thursday, he wore the one from the 2000 Subway Series win against the Mets because it means the most to him. The Mets finished 71-91 in 2004, fourth in the NL East, and Randolph has been brought in to trigger a transformation. His role models are Torre ("the best manager in baseball"), Billy Martin ("the ultimate leader, warrior"), Dick Howser, Lou Piniella ("even though he was nuts"), Tony La Russa and Tom Lasorda. Randolph wants an aggressive team that will steal bases and force defenses to make plays. He's spoken to Don Zimmer about the possibility of joining his coaching staff, and Chili Davis, too.

Yankee Stadium had congratulatory signs posted outside, and owner George Steinbrenner praised Randolph as "a great Yankee."

# Randolph inks 3-year deal to Heat top Cavaliers, 92-86

By TIM REYNOLDS



MIAMI (AP)—Shaquille O'Neal made sure the arena was filled. Dwyane Wade took care of sending the record crowd home happy.

Wade scored 28 points and O'Neal added 17 points and nine rebounds in his home debut for his new team as Miami beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 92-86 Thursday night before 20,235 Shaq-crazed fans—the largest crowd to see a Heat home game.

O'Neal scored the game's first points on Miami's opening possession and the Heat never trailed, just as they didn't at any time in Wednesday's 23-point win at New Jersey. Udonis Haslem had 15 points and Rasual Butler added 11 for Miami, off to a 2-0 start for the fourth time in its 17-year history.

Drew Gooden had 24 points and LeBron James had 21 points and eight rebounds for Cleveland (0-2). Zydrunas Ilgauskas, who tied a career-high with 35 points Wednesday in a doubleovertime loss to Indiana, managed just eight against the Heat.

Cleveland was within 61-60 with 4:59 remaining in the third, but Wade scored six points in a 12-6 run that pushed Miami's lead to 73-66 at the end of the quarter. And a 12-6 run midway through the fourth quarter, with Haslem getting five points, sealed the win.

A year ago, the crowd for Miami's home opener was announced at 15,825 to reflect the number of tickets sold; perhaps 10,000 fans were actually in the arena. No numerical creativity was necessary Thursday.

Most of the fans were seated just to see O'Neal arrive for pregame warmups. They cheered when his face flashed on the jumbotron screens during the national anthem. And perhaps the loudest shouts came with 8: 14 left in the first quarter, when he leaped over the Heat bench trying to save a loose ball.

Until now, Miami's largest regularseason crowds were fueled by the drawing power of the opponent's star; James lured 20,213 last April, and Michael Jordan's last two visits with the Washington Wizards drew an average of 20,135.

This crowd wanted to see Shaq, and he wasted little time winning them over.

He had seven points in the first 3 1/2 minutes—never showing any ill effects of the strained left hamstring that bothered him throughout training camp. O'Neal played in six-minute spurts to protect the hamstring, but remained on the court until the game's end, indicating that the Heat isn't overly concerned with the injury.

O'Neal played 32 minutes, shooting 7-of-17 from the floor—and 3-for-9 from the foul line, putting him off to a 5-for-16 start to the season from the stripe.

Jeff McInnis had 14 points for Cleveland, which was held to 38.8 percent shooting. you all did last year."

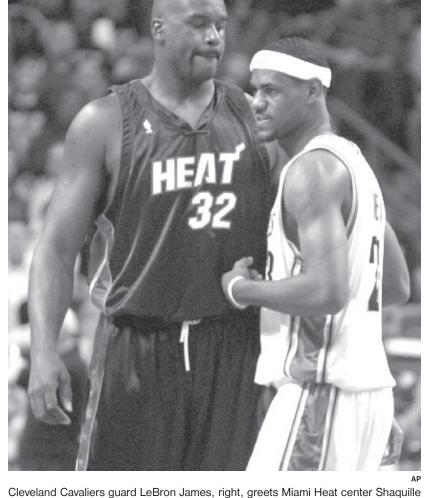
### Wizards 103, Bobcats 96

In Charlotte, the NBA returned to Charlotte on Thursday night after a two-year absence, but the expansion Bobcats opened their inaugural season with a 103-96 loss to the Washington

Replacing the Hornets after they moved to New Orleans in 2002, the Bobcats are expected to struggle mightily this season. Still, they were in this one late as they tried to become the third consecutive expansion team to win its NBA debut, following Vancouver and Toronto (1995).

Charlotte fell short because of youth and inexperience. The game was tied at 85 midway through the fourth quarter when turnovers and poor shot selection allowed the Wizards to go on a decisive 9-0 run.

Antawn Jamison, a Charlotte native,



O'Neal (32) before the start of their game Thursday, Nov. 4, 2004, in Miami.

led Washington with 24 points. Emeka Okafor, the No. 2 overall pick in the NBA draft, paced the Bobcats with 19 points and 10 rebounds.

Unlike the Hornets' first game in 1988, when they received a standing ovation after a 40-point loss, most of the sellout crowd of 23,319 was long gone by the end. Even NBA commissioner David Stern filed out before the final buzzer.

And not everything went smoothly during the opener.

The sound system in the aging Char-

lotte Coliseum—where the Bobcats will play this year as their new \$265 million arena is being finished—wasn't sharp, making team owner Bob Johnson's pre-game speech to the crowd difficult to hear.

### **Spurrier withdraws** from Gator hunt

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP)—If Steve Spurrier decides to coach again, it won't be at his alma mater. Spurrier withdrew his name from consideration Thursday to replace Ron Zook, saying his time at Florida has passed.

The announcement relieves any reservations boosters and school officials had regarding Spurrier's potential return. It also opens up a coaching search that was widely considered Spurrier's to lose.

The Gators won six Southeastern Conference championships and the 1996 national title under Spurrier. He posted 122 victories over 12 seasons, tormented opponents with his offensive flair and witty one-liners, and left town with the best winning percentage in league history.

Zook, hired in 2002 after Spurrier left to coach the Washington Redskins, was fired last week after the latest in a series of embarrassing losses—a 38-31 defeat by lowly Mississippi State.

Spurrier quit the Redskins after two losing seasons, and indicated last week he would consider a return to Gainesville.

Foley and Spurrier exchanged several phone messages, trying to set up an interview with school president Bernie Machen after the season.

# Astros' Clemens said close to retirement



TOKYO (AP)—Roger Clemens is still deciding whether to pitch again next season

"I'm very close to retirement," Clemens told reporters Friday. "Obviously, I haven't made the decision for the upcoming season yet."

Clemens is in Japan for an eight-game tour with other major league stars. He was scheduled to start the opening game at Tokyo Dome on Friday.

The 42-year-old Clemens won twice in the playoffs for Houston last month. He had a sixth-inning lead in Game 7 of the NL championship series at Busch Stadium but gave up a go-ahead homer to St. Louis' Scott Rolen and wound up with a season-ending loss.

James Murray of Hendricks Sports Management is traveling with the six-time Cy Young Award winner and said Clemens plans to make a decision by January.

The Rocket already called it quits once, after the 2003 season, then came out of a brief retirement to pitch for his hometown Astros in 2004.

Houston Astros pitcher Roger Clemens does high-five with school children as he leaves Nishigaoka Elementary School in Tokyo Friday, Nov. 5, 2004.

# Clarke, Kelly, Haas lead Tour Championship

By DOUG FERGUSON AP GOLF WRITER

ATLANTA (AP)—Not everyone wants to see Vijay Singh wins

his 10th tournament of the year. Three guys who shared the lead Thursday in the Tour Championship would be thrilled to win their first.

Darren Clarke, Jerry Kelly and 50-year-old Jay Haas each had a 3-under 67 on a soggy, blustery and entertaining first round at East Lake, a good start as they try to end their seasons on a good note.

"I've had a very poor year,"

Clarke said. "We all play to win, and I haven't managed to do that this year so far."

Singh has won nine times, and he put himself in position to become the first player since 1950 to reach double digits. Despite going 15 holes without a birdie, the Fijian recovered from enough missed shots for a 69.

And for those who wondered how marriage would change Tiger Woods? He still can't hit a fairway. In his first tournament since getting married, Woods struggled off the tee and out of the rough, finishing with a 72.

Entertainment came from

while slamming an 8-iron into his bag and finished the round putting with his sand wedge. He also had a 72.

"I wasn't making putts. I figured I might as well use the sand wedge," Els said. "That didn't work, either."

The 67 was the highest score to lead the Tour Championship in the four years it has been held at East Lake. Only 13 players among the top 31 on the money list managed to break par.

And no one was surprised.

Heavy rain Thursday morning turned fairways into small rivers, but a new drainage system at East Lake allowed Ernie Els, who broke his putter the season-ending tournament

to start on time. It dried up so well that tour officials decided to play the ball as it lies, leaving players to face several shots with mud splattered on their golf balls.

Then came the wind, whistling through the trees and making the closing holes play even tougher. Perhaps it was no coincidence that the trio in the lead had the earlier starting times.

Darren Clarke, of Northern Ireland, hits from the rough on the 17th hole during first round play in the Tour Championship Thursday, Nov. 4, 2004, in Atlanta.

Clarke shot a 3-under-par 67.

# No. 14 Louisville defeats Memphis, 56-49



MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Eric Shelton scored his fourth touchdown from 1

yard out with 37 seconds left, and No. 14 Louisville held off Memphis 56-49 on Thursday night.

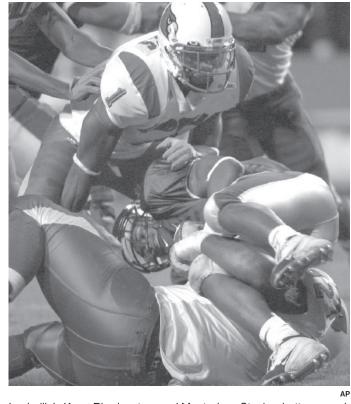
The Cardinals (6-1, 4-0 Conference USA) and their highpowered offense did just enough to keep the Tigers (5-3, 2-3) from beating a ranked opponent for the first time since 1996.

Shelton ran for 136 yards on 14 carries, including a 78-yard touchdown in the second quarter. He scored on three short runs in the second half, and Stefan LeFors finished with three first-half touchdown passes.

LeFors, the nation's most efficient passer, wasn't as sharp as his 76 percent season completion rate, but still hit on 24 of 34 attempts for 321 yards without a turnover.

It was a wild game that featured 10 lead changes, capped when Shelton scored from the 1 to put Louisville ahead 54-49. LeFors ran in a 2-point conversion, then the Cardinals intercepted a pass to seal it.

Louisville took a 48-40 lead after consecutive touchdown runs by Shelton, the second with 11:54 remaining.



Louisville's Kerry Rhodes, top, and Montavious Stanley, bottom, sandwich Memphis running back Joseph Doss during the second half on Thursday, Nov. 4, at the Liberty Bowl in Memphis.

Danny Wimprine, who threw for four touchdowns and 361 yards, ran in from the 1 to make it 48-46. The Tigers failed on a 2-point conversion attempt that would have tied the game.

But the Memphis defense got Memphis answered when a key turnover when Shelton Memphis settled for Stephen

fumbled a handoff with 7:36 left, and Wimprine went back to work on the Tigers 39.

He led his team to the Louisville 9, but after a penalty, two incomplete passes and a 2-yard run by DeAngelo Williams, Gostkowski's 29-yard field goal and a 49-48 lead with 6:20 left.

That was plenty of time for LeFors, who found J.R. Russell for a 28-yard completion to the Memphis 27. The Cardinals ran the clock inside a minute, and Memphis couldn't stop Shelton from scoring the winning touchdown.

The second half was downright slow after a frantic first half that featured a combined 68 points and 703 yards of total offense.

The teams scored on five consecutive drives, and there were only two punts-on the Cardinals' first and last possessions of the half.

Louisville came in with the nation's 11th-ranked defense, but the Cardinals gave up 17 first-quarter points after allowing just one touchdown in their first six games.

LeFors bailed the defense out after the Tigers took a 24-14 lead on a 31-yard TD run by Williams, who finished with 200 yards on 26 carries.

LeFors found Russell diving across the goal line for a 32yard TD pass, and the defense got into the act when safety Kerry Rhodes stripped Williams on third-and-20 and returned it 40 yards for a touchdown to make it 28-24.

			9
NBA	Chris DiMarco	36-36	72 72
N DIVISION	Todd Hamilton Ernie Els Tiger Woods	36-36 36-36 34-38	72 72 72
1 0 1.000 -	K.J. Choi	36-37	73

New York **Southeast Division** 1.000 Washington 0 1.000 1.000 1/2 Orlando .000 Charlotte .000

.000

**EASTERN** 

Toronto

Boston

New Jersey

**Central Division** 1.000 Indiana 0 1.000 .000 1/2 Chicago 0 0 .000 0 2 .000

**WESTERN CONFERENCE** 

000000000000000000000000000000000000000				
Dallas	2	0	1.000	-
San Antonio	1	0	1.000	1/2
Memphis	0	1	.000	1 1/2
New Orleans	0	1	.000	1 1/2
Houston	0	2	.000	2

**Northwest Division** 1.000 Portland Utah 0 1.000 -Denver .500 .500

**Pacific Division** L.A. Clippers 1.000 Phoenix 0 1.000 L.A. Lakers .500 1/2 .000

Yesterday's Games Miami 92, Cleveland 86

Sacramento

Phil Mickelson

### Denver 94, Minnesota 92. OT

TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

.000

### **FIRST ROUND** Jay Haas Darren Clarke 33-34 33-34 Jerry Kelly 33-35 Zach Johnson 33-35 68 Padraig Harrington 35-34 69 35-34 Mark Hensby 35-34 69 33-36 69 Steve Flesch 34-35 Mike Weir Stuart Appleby 32-37 69 36-33 69 Stephen Ames Viiav Singh 35-34 Retief Goosen 33-37 70 Stewart Cink 35-35 70 Rory Sabbatini 37-34 Sergio Garcia 34-37 71 71

35-36

Fred Funk 73 Shigeki Maruyama 34-39 Chad Campbell Scott Verplank 35-39 74 36-39

### **SPORTS TRANSACTIONS**

### **MLB**

**DETROIT TIGERS-Named David Chadd** vice president of amateur scouting, and Greg Smith scout.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES-Named Charthree-year contract. SAN DIEGO PADRES-Named Scott

Scott Trcka, Charlie Kerfeld and Dave

SEATTLE MARINERS-Named Jim Slaton bullpen coach NEW YORK METS-Named Willie Ran-

dolph manager and agreed to terms on a three-year contract.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS-Waived F Marcus

NEW JERSEY NETS-Signed Lawrence

CLEVELAND BROWNS-Signed WR Richard Alston from the practice squad. Resigned OL Anthony Oakley to the practice

### College

Haworth assistant commissioner for compliance and Jonathan Gust director of communications.

MARYLAND- Signed Deborah You, athletic director, to a two-year contract extension through Aug. 2010.

MEREDITH-Named Steve Barnes sports information director. MISSISSIPPI-Dismissed DB Danny Bell

from the football program due to disciplinary reasons. PENN STATE-Named Eldon Price director of men's basketball operations and Greg Myford associate athletic director

for marketing and communications RUTGERS-CAMDEN-Announced resignation Brian Sheehan, women's

soccer coach. SAINT LOUIS-Re-signed Brad Soderberg, men's basketball coach, to a fiveyear contract.

VERMONT-Announced the retirement of Tom Brennan, men's basketball coach, effective at the end of the 2004-05 season.

By The Associated Press

# Venus Williams advances at Advanta Championships

VILLANOVA, Pa. (AP)—Ve-Yuliana Fedak, 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (4) in the second round of the Advanta Tennis Championships on Thursday night.

Williams, the fifth seed, led 5-4 in the first set but Fedak fought off six set points before losing on the game's eighth deuce. Fedak easily won the second set and opened a 3-1 lead in the third, but Williams fought back for a 5-4 lead.

She rallied from 4-2 down in the tiebreaker.

"Girls like (Fedak) come out and have nothing to lose so they go for broke," Williams said. "I don't know if anyone else I'll play in this tournament will play at this high a level."

Defending champion Amelie nus Williams needed a third-set Mauresmo advanced to the tiebreaker to defeat 87th-ranked quarterfinals by defeating Iveta Benesova 6-2, 6-2.

"I played well here last year," the top-seeded Mauresmo said. "I just hope I can keep it going for another few days.

Second-seeded Anastasia Myskina struggled but held on to beat Rossana Neffa-De Los Rios 6-4, 7-6 (0). Myskina trailed for much of the first set before rallying to tie at 4 and win.

Neffa-De Los Rios held a 3-1 lead in the second set before Myskina was able to find her game again and take a 6-5 lead. Neffa-De Los Rios won her service game to force the tiebreaker, but Myskina shut her out the rest of the way.



Venus Williams hits a backhand return to Yuliana Fedak, of Ukraine, during their Advanta Championship match Thursday, Nov. 4, 2004, in

# Blanco breaks through for a great Week 8

By BRAD E. RUSZALA

After a scary couple of weeks in the sporting world, some of the things that enthusiasts term as the norm have returned to make things all nice and cozy again. The New England Patriots were proven to be mortal, Brett Favre and the Packers look like a good team again, and Rich Brooks once again had the lowest number of correct picks—ah, sweet relief.

In keeping with the ever changing trend of the National Football League, several teams showed why the games are not decided by the match ups on paper. Take the Kansas City Chiefs for example. After floundering through the first few weeks of the season, the team with the most prolific running attack in the 2003-04 season has finally returned to send chills down the spines of opposing defensive coordinators.

A week after lambasting the Atlanta Falcons with eight rushing touchdowns, the Chiefs returned to corral the Indianapolis Colts in a 45-35 victory. What is with this team? All year they have played about as poorly as can be, only to score more points in the last two weeks than the Dolphins, Redskins, and Panthers have all season.

The Chiefs were not the only team to upset the competition, but their win came in the friendly confines of Arrowhead Stadium. The N.Y. football Giants marched into the Metrodome and took a "W" away from Daunte Culpepper, Randy Moss, and Ontario Smith. The Falcons flew into Mile High to down Denver, and the San Francisco 49ers took to the Bears in the windy city.

All of those games had football experts wondering how in the heck such things were able to happen, with the exception of the Niner's game—nobody really cared what these two bottom feeders had to offer on Sunday night (I read somewhere that the ESPN announcers left in the third quarter to get some coffee and nobody noticed).

While the pro's don't have all of the answers, our local prog-

**RICH BROOKS WEEK NINE PICKS WILL HUNTER** JOHN BLANCO JENNIFER LEE **BIG TUNA ARIZONA ARIZONA MIAMI ARIZONA ARIZONA** DALLAS CINCINNATI DALLAS CINCINNATI DALLAS KANSAS CITY KANSAS CITY KANSAS CITY KANSAS CITY KANSAS CITY N.Y. JETS N.Y. JETS **BUFFALO** N.Y. JETS N.Y. JETS CAROLINA CAROLINA OAKLAND CAROLINA OAKLAND **PITTSBURGH PHILADELPHIA PHILADELPHILA** PITTSBURGH **PITTSBUGH** DETROIT DETROIT WASHINGTON DETROIT DETROIT N.Y. GIANTS CHICAGO N.Y. GIANTS N.Y. GIANTS N.Y. GIANTS SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO SEATTLE SEATTLE SEATTLE SEATTLE SEATTLE DENVER HOUSTON DENVER HOUSTON DENVER **NEW ENGLAND NEW ENGLAND NEW ENGLAND** ST. LOUIS **NEW ENGLAND** BALTIMORE **BALTIMORE BALTIMORE CLEVELAND** BALTIMORE **NDIANAPOLIS INDIANAPOLIS INDIANAPOLIS INDIANAPOLIS MINNESOTA** ATLANTA, GREEN BAY, JACKSONVILLE, TENNESSEE My pick of the week has to go My pick of the week is the My "Big Daddy" sure-shot of My guarantee is that the My best bet is Indianapolis. **GUARANTEED** to Indianapolis. Although the Pittsburgh Steelers. Nothing is the week is that Washington will Minnesota will suffer another Steelers will knock off the PICK OF THE WEEK Colt's secondary is suspect to more annoying then watching skin the Lions. They're going defeat as Peyton Manning last of the undefeateds. Culpepper and his air attack, I a multi-million dollar player have a sale on Lion-skin rugs in looks to air it out all game. The They brought the Patriots' believe that Peyton Manning cry about not getting the D.C. on Monday—maybe "The Indy offense will be running on winning streak to a shriekwill rack up enough air miles respect he "deserves" in the Donald" can stop on down to all cylinders. Look for Marvin ing halt, and therefore, I to bring them a win. League. A prime example is get a new piece of dead animal Harrison and Reggie Wayne look forward to the Steelers Terrell Owens. His whine sesto put on his head. I guess the to score early and often on the taming and plucking the sions have become legendary. upset of the week would have weak Minnesota defense. Mineagles this weekend on their to be New England—what a nesota, always hot at the begin-It's time someone shut him up. steely turf. I believe Pittsburgh is the team run of wins they had. As the ning of the season, starts its saying goes—all things must traditional fall from the elites that will do it. Go Steelers! come to an end. Though they of the league as Minnesota took one on the chin against the falls apart with Randy Moss Steelers, they will repeat in the sitting on the sideline with his "BIG GAME" this year hamstring injury.

nosticators William Hunter, John Blanco, Richard Brooks, Jennifer Lee, and Jimmy "Big Tuna" Sablan have returned to explain the world of football-Dr. Phil style.

The current overall leader made it to the top spot by going out on a limb by picking three games differently from the rest of the pack. By picking Arizona, Kansas City, and Houston, Jennifer Lee went 2-of-3 to edge ahead of former leader Will Hunter with a 9-5 week. Lee is 64-36 on the season, while Hunter is right behind at 63-37, and they have a little bit of breathing room at the top. Last week's most successful NFL guru was John Blanco, at 10-4. The former CFL Predator made it to the the season, his picks aren't halfhigh ground by improving his overall record to 59-41—good half-bad at 50-50.

enough for a third place tie with the Big Tuna. Brooks is still in the cellar, but half way through bad. Actually, they are exactly

### **BILLS**

From Page 28

Despite a 2-5 start, a swagger is beginning to emerge for a Buffalo defense that prepares to host Martin and the surging Jets (6-1) on Sunday. It's a confidence in part from having not allowed a 100-yard rusher this season.

That includes limiting Martin to a season-low 77 yards in the Jets' 16-14 win over Buffalo last month. It was an impressive showing against a running back who is third in the league with 798 yards rushing and has run for 100 yards or more in five of seven games.

It was a performance that

continued Buffalo's string of successes against Martin, a 10year veteran who ranks seventh on the NFL's career list of rushers. Of his 38 100-yard performances since joining the Jets in 1998, only three have come in 11 meetings against the Bills.

"It ain't no challenge," Williams said. "We've just got to go out there and play hard like we do every Sunday."

Shutting down Martin won't solve all Buffalo's problems.

The Jets might not be the pass-happy Indianapolis Colts, but quarterback Chad Pennington has been effective running the team's short-passing attack. With 1,502 yards passing,

Pennington's averaging only 7.5 yards per completion. But his strength has been efficiency, with eight touchdowns and only two interceptions.

Pennington was at his most effective against the Bills the last time, finishing 31-of-42 for 304 yards. That included going 7-of-8 for 51 yards in a 60-yard drive that set up Doug Brien's winning field goal in the final minute.

"He kept the football out of our hands," Bills coach Mike Mularkey said. "He manages that offense. Whatever they're asking him to do, he doesn't try to do more."

The Bills still like their chances against Pennington, particularly

now that their defense is healthier with veteran safety Lawyer Milloy back after missing the first five games-including the one against New York-with a broken right forearm.

Cornerback Troy Vincent noticed the effect Milloy had in his first game back, Buffalo's 20-6 loss at Baltimore.

Besides making several big hits in that game, Milloy's enthusiasm raised the unit's intensity level, Vincent said.

"His heart, his determination. those are ingredients you need to be a dominant defense," Vincent said. "Any time you have his kind of presence on the field, vou're a better defense."

### Attention all Motocross enthusiasts

The Marianas Racing Association (MRA) will be having a general membership meeting next Monday, Nov. 8, at the pavilion north of the Minachom Atdao in Oleai.

All of the association's current members along with anyone interested the sport of moto-cross are cordially invited to attend this important meeting.

According to MRA Secretary Daniel Camacho, the gathering at the pavilion will come to order at 6:30pm. (Brad E. Ruszala)

### **FLUSH IT!**

From Page 28

at 8pm next Tuesday, Nov. 9. All the side-outs you can handle will be doled out again Tuesday night at the PIC. If

you would like further information about the 6th Annual Miller 4-Person Beach Volleyball League, contact Jon, Evan, Dennis, or Nan by calling the SEA office at 235-6231



**Heat top** Cavaliers, 92-86

Shaquille O'Neal made sure the arena was filled. Dwyane Wade took care of sending the record crowd home happy.



### Clarke, Kelly, **Haas lead Tour**

Not everyone wants to see Vijay Singh wins his 10th tournament of the year. Three guys who shared the lead Thursday in the Tour Championship would be thrilled to win their first.

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**28** SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2004

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

You is back again next Tues-

day, Nov. 9, at 9pm, against the Dragon Flares, who will

take on the Bananas on Tues-

The final match of the night

featured a pair of team that pro-

vided more high flying action

than a plane load of parachuting

mimes left to shape out their

chutes, as the Sleezy Lambleez-

ies and the Clam Smackers went

The SL Express was rockin'

its way through PICville on

Thursday night, and they only

stopped in the second set to

drop off aid for the widows of

Led by Leaping Laurie Peter-

ka and Dapper Dan Westphal,

the Lambleezies laid a 11-5

smackin' upon the Clam in the

Lambleezies allowed the Clam

Smackers to return the favor

The horn sounded, the

steam plumes rose, and the Clambake began as the SL

Express fired up the boilers to

chugged over the Clams 11-6,

and went to Second Placeville

when they improved their re-

cord to 6-1. The Express returns

try to break Bend It Like Megan

The Sleezy Lambleezies

with a 11-6 rebound.

begin the third set.

While they were off loading supplies for Mime Aid '04, the

first set to get the ball rollin'.

day, Nov. 16 at 6pm.

three sets in the sand.

the fallen mimes.

# Flush It! downs the Winkle to get ahead

By BRAD E. RUSZALA

t seems that the only team in the league that will be able to beat Flush It! is Flush It!, as the undefeated squad shot down Shoot The Winkle to improve their record to 8-0 atop the standings in the 6th Annual Miller 4-Person Beach Volleyball League.

Only Flush It! is the only team that has managed to escape unscathed on the beach volleyball court at the Pacific Islands Club, and while that may change next week, the FI-

guys kept their bragging rights on Thursday night with a three-set sweep of the Winkle.

Prior to this game, the Winkle had pulled themselves out of the lower-class level and into the realm of the playoff bound. After dropping their fifth game 11-1, 11-7 and 12-10, the Winkle was flushed out of top eight.

Flush It! returns to the courts next Thursday, Nov. 11, when they take on Bend It Like Megan at 7pm, while Shoot the Winkle sees action on Tuesday, Nov. 9, when they try to redemption against the winless Esemuoel.

Next week's game between Flush It! and Bend It Like Megan was shaping up to be a battle of the undefeateds, but all of that changed when the Dragon Flares scorched the

Megan-like contortionists in two out of three sets.

The Megans were 5-0 when they entered the sandy sand, and they were cruising toward 6-0 after the Dragons flamed out in the first set 11-4. The momentum and the game changed hands in the second set when the Flares turned on their pilot light and edged the Megans 11-9 in a hotly contested second set.

With the game tied at a set apiece, second place was on the line for the Megans, but they didn't play up to their potential. Rather than extending their winning streak to six, Bend It Like

> Megan went in the opposite direction to suffer their first loss, 11-3.

The fightin' Megans return to the courts next Tuesday, Nov. 9 to face the Clam Smackers, while the Dragon Flares play later that night against Tell Them Tom Braider Sent You at 9pm.

The same Tom Braiders were challenged by a bunch of Bananas in the third match of the night, and they kept their hopes alive by earning their fifth win of the season against the yellow

The Braiders plucked the Bananas 11-4 in the first set, but slipped on their peels in the second 11-6. The Braiders learned not to monkey around with the Bananas, and in the third set they went Donkey Kong for a 11-3 aping of the ill-nanas.



Eddie Kim of the Clam Smackers tries to put one past Dan Westphal of the Sleezy Lambleezies during the Tell Them Tom Braider Sent 6th Annual Miller 4-Person Beach Volleyball League at the Pacific Islands Club.

on Thursday, Nov. 11, when they battle the MHS Dolphins at 6pm, while the Clam Smackers

See FLUSH IT! on Page 27

### Bills defenders have plan to stop Martin

By JOHN WAWROW

AP SPORTS WRITER



ORCHARD PARK, (AP)—Curtis who? To hear Buffalo Bills defenders talk,

stopping New York Jets running back Curtis Martin shouldn't be a problem this weekend. They've done it before, and plan to do it again.

And the New York Jets running back's latest big game— 115 yards rushing and a touchdown in three quarters against Miami last Monday—doesn't faze the Bills.

"He's like every other back," defensive tackle Pat Williams said. "They all look the same to me."

Or as linebacker Takeo Spikes put it: "We don't consider ourselves the Miami defense."

In other words, the Bills believe they're much better.

See BILLS on Page 27



New York Jets running back Curtis Martin heads down the sideline for a 25-yard touchdown run against the Miami Dolphins during the third quarter Monday, Nov. 1, 2004 in East Rutherford, N.J..

# Shag evens up the Rocball finals

By BRAD E. RUSZALA

After a fast and furious Game 1 in which they lost by a mere three points, Shag bounced back to down the Ghasias Brothers 70-61 in Game 2 of the World Organized Rocball Interscholastic and Community League championships.

The Brothers took the court with confidence at the Marianas High School Gymnasium having earned a 1-0 lead in the best-of-five series on Thursday evening, and that may have been the deciding factor in their 16-15 win in the opening set.

After a little pep talk, Shag returned to big blue on a mission to even up the set count. The regular season runner-ups were able to do just that with a fierce opening salvo that included a goal by Mike Olaitiman. Shag edged the Brothers

18-6 to make the overall score 33-22 in their favor as they headed into the third set.

The GB5 wasn't the undefeated undisputed regular season champion because they ran from a challenge, and they proved that they

were focused on the prize with a 17-11 win in the third set.

**Brothers** The were getting a ton of points from the corner stone of their Freddy offense,

Pelisamen. FP-diddy racked up five kees for the Brothers, but heading into the fourth and final set, they were down 44-39 to Shag.

The devastating loss in the second set proved to be worse than it originally appeared because the Brothers needed to win the final set by at least eight points to take the game. As it worked out, the Brothers were able to score 12 to the Shag's 16.

Since Shag was able to win the last set with an advantage of more than three points, they were able to "Juice Out" to tie the series at a game apiece.

Overall, the Shag scored nine aces, 12 kees and a goal, compared to one aces, 13 kees and a xunk by the Ghasias Brothers.

The Shag also had the game's standout,

as Kashi Kubbun was named the heavy hitter, scoring three aces and five kees to lead his team in the victory with 16 points, while teammate Mike Olaitiman piled on three aces, three kees, and a goal for 15 points.

Game 3 of the best-of-five Rocball finals takes place on Monday at 5pm in the air-conditioned comforts of the MHS Gymnasium.